

WEST ENGLAND FOREST DISTRICT

Scheduled Monument

Management Plan for

Windy Cross SM

Plan Period 2017 - 2027

SM Management Plan

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SM Management Plan

1. Agreement and Consent

District West England Forest District
Name of SM Windy Cross
OS Grid reference
Period of Plan 2017 - 2027

pp Peter Kelsall
Kevin Stannard
Forest Management Director
Forestry Commission England
Date



04/10/2016



Dan Bashford
Historic England
Date

09/10/2017.

2. Management Objectives

The Archaeology at North Wood is made up a single Scheduled Monument. The avoidance of disturbance is critical and this will be achieved by:

1. At all times the Forestry Commission will avoid forestry operations encroaching onto the monument. A 10m exclusion zone for machinery will be enforced in all operations. This includes timber harvesting and ground preparation machinery which has a high potential for disturbance
2. If replanting is conducted during the plan period it will be kept 10m from the edge of the monument
3. Trees growing outside the monument which blow onto the monument will be cut and timber removed if this can be done sensitively and safely, otherwise they will be left to decay in situ.
4. Every 5 years a formal survey will be undertaken of trees on the monument and any tree which is found to have stability problems which are anticipated as impacting on the monument will be removed. The annual survey of the roadside tree safety will also include the larger trees on the monument for stability as they are within striking distance of the road.
5. Woody vegetation which is naturally occurring will be controlled if it grows over 50cm in height. It will be cut low to the ground with either chainsaw or brush cutter as appropriate. Arisings will be removed from the monument.
6. Bracken and bramble will be targeted for significant removal due to its destructive nature. An annual survey in early summer will identify the need for control. Due to current restrictions on chemical control methods on the UKWAS certified ground control will be mechanical cutting repeated within the year and over several years. Ideally the bracken will be eradicated from the footprint of the monument.
7. Where in compliance with the Forest Plan mature timber trees will be removed from the area surrounding the monuments. Trees will be felled away from the monuments so they do not cause impact damage.
8. Public access onto the monuments will not be encouraged, however it will not be prevented unless it is causing noticeable damage. This complies with the terms of the Forestry Commission's lease of the woodland.

SM Management Plan

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Inspect SM for threats	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Remove windblown and unstable trees if found	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Formally inspect for tree stability		◆					◆			
Manage woody vegetation growth if exceeding parameters set	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Check for bracken and implement control measures if found	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆

3. Descriptions

Windy Cross

List entry Number: 1017145

Previous reference: 24851

Date first scheduled: 01-Nov-1954

Date of most recent amendment: 11-Feb-2000

Reasons for Designation

Wayside crosses are one of several types of Christian cross erected during the medieval period, mostly from the 9th to 15th centuries AD. In addition to serving the function of reiterating and reinforcing the Christian faith amongst those who passed the cross and of reassuring the traveller, wayside crosses often fulfilled a role as waymarkers, especially in difficult and otherwise unmarked terrain. The crosses might be on regularly used routes linking ordinary settlements or on routes having a more specifically religious function, including those providing access to religious sites for parishioners and funeral processions, or marking long-distance routes frequented on pilgrimages. Over 350 wayside crosses are known nationally, concentrated in south west England throughout Cornwall and on Dartmoor where they form the commonest type of stone cross. A small group also occurs on the North York Moors. Relatively few examples have been recorded elsewhere and these are generally confined to remote moorland locations. Outside Cornwall almost all wayside crosses take the form of a 'Latin' cross, in which the cross-head itself is shaped within the projecting arms of an unenclosed cross. In Cornwall wayside crosses vary considerably in form and decoration. The commonest type includes a round, or 'wheel', head on the faces of which various forms of cross or related designs were carved in relief or incised, the spaces between the cross arms possibly pierced. The design was sometimes supplemented with a relief figure of Christ and the shaft might bear decorative panels and motifs. Less common forms in Cornwall include the 'Latin' cross and, much rarer, the simple slab with a low relief cross on both faces. Rare examples of wheel-head and slab-form crosses also occur within the North York Moors group. Most wayside crosses have either a simple socketed base or show no evidence for a separate base at all. Wayside crosses contribute significantly to our understanding of medieval religious customs and sculptural traditions and to our knowledge of medieval routeways and settlement patterns. All wayside crosses which survive as earth-fast monuments, except those which are extremely damaged and removed from their original locations, are considered worthy of protection.

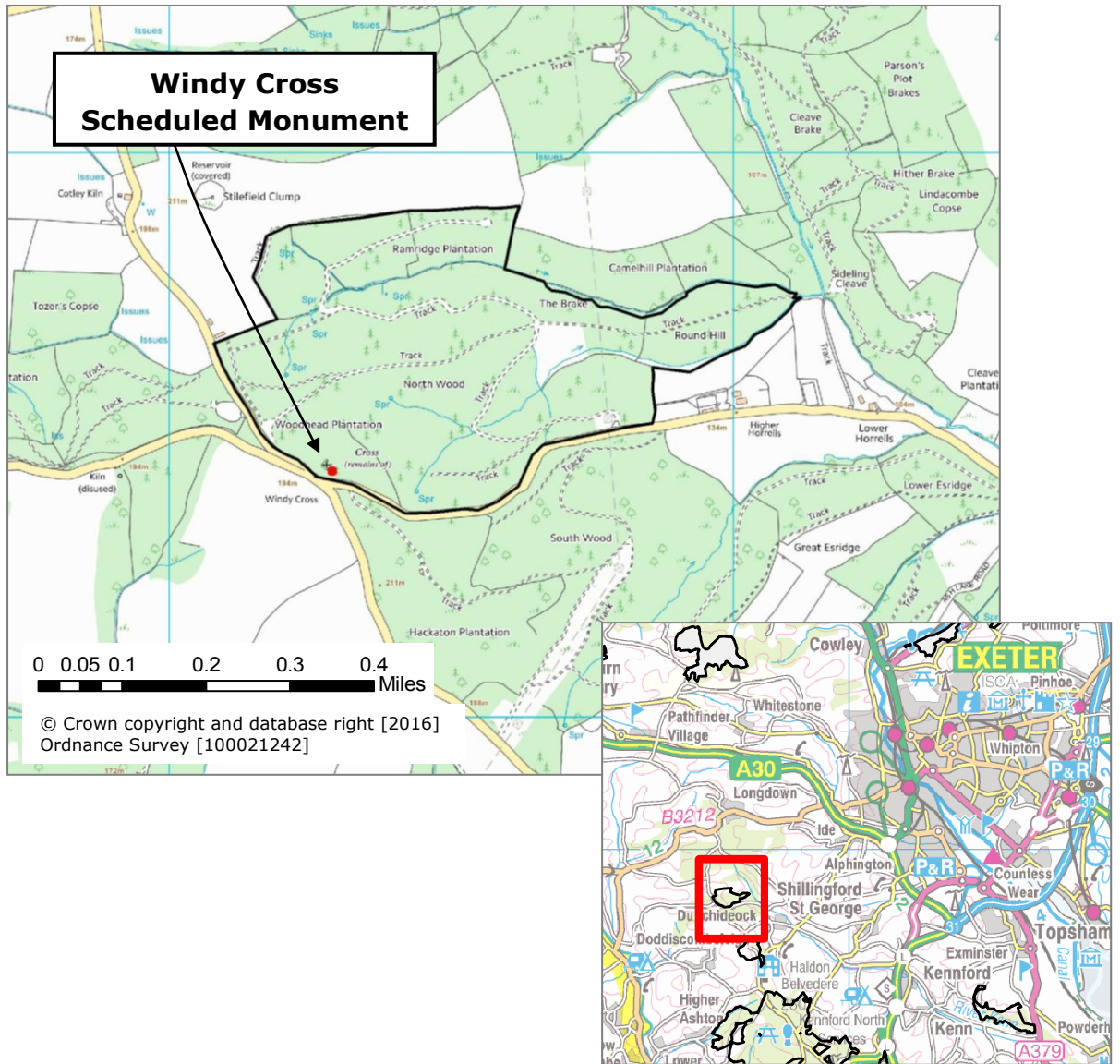
Despite restoration, Windy Cross is a good example of its class, and its location close to a crossroads reflects its original purpose as a waymarker.

Details

This wayside cross known as Windy Cross, is situated 13m north of the crossroads also known as Windy Cross, at the southern edge of North Wood. It is aligned NNW to SSE. The cross survives as a simple Latin cross which is octagonal in section, and is Listed Grade II. The shaft tapers upwards and measures 0.41m long and 0.26m wide at the base, decreasing to 0.28m long and 0.23m wide at the head. The arms measure 0.74m wide and the whole cross attains a height of 1.41m. An Ordnance Survey benchmark has been inscribed on the western face of the cross, near to its base. The cross was restored in 1952 and a joint is visible 0.25m above the ground.

SM Management Plan

4. Location Maps



SM Management Plan

5. Photographic record



Windy Cross SM - looking south
(October, 2016)



Windy Cross SM - looking north
(October, 2016)